

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 11, 13-17, and 20 are amended. Claims 3, 9, 10, 12, 18, and 19 are cancelled. Support for the claim amendments can be found in the claims as originally filed. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

The Examiner objected to claim 20 due to informalities in the claim. Applicant has amended claim 20 accordingly, thereby overcoming the objection.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended claim 1 accordingly, thereby overcoming the rejection.

Claim 1 is amended to include the allowable features of claim 3. Claim 8 is amended to include the allowable features of claim 12. Claim 14-16 are amended to include the features of original claim 8. Claim 17 is amended to include the allowable features of claim 19. In the Office Action dated March 8, 2007, the Examiner stated, "Claims 3-7, 12-16, 19, and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." Also, in the interview held on May 22, 2007 between the Applicant's representatives and the Examiner, an agreement was reached that amended claims 1 and 8 are now in condition for allowance. Hence, amended claims 1, 8, 14, 15, 16, and 17 should now be in condition for allowance. Claims 2, 4-7, 11, 13, 20 should now be in condition for allowance at least by virtue of the dependency on claims 1, 8, 14, 15, 16, and 17.

Applicant is not conceding in this application that any of the original claims are unpatentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

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Respectfully submitted,

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